

Notice of Public Hearing

by the

State of Nevada

The Administrator of the Division of Environmental Protection gives notice that a public hearing regarding the proposed modification of Authorization to Apply Biosolids (Permit) NEV2002501 for the land application of Class B, or better, biosolids at the Funeral Mountain Ranch, has been scheduled for 6:00 P.M. November 12, 2003 at the Amargosa Valley Multipurpose Building, 821 E. Amargosa Farm Road, Amargosa Valley, Nevada.

Public notice for the draft permit was published September 24, 2003 in the Las Vegas Review-Journal and the Pahrump Valley Times. The Administrator has determined that there is sufficient public interest in this draft permit to warrant a public hearing.

The Applicant for the modification of Permit NEV2002501 is:

Solid Solutions, L.L.C.
214 Main Street, Suite 383
El Segundo, CA 90245

The facility, Funeral Mountain Ranch, is located in Nye County, Nevada and is in portions of Sections 14, 23, 24, and 26, Township 16 S, Range 48 E, in the town of Amargosa Valley, Nevada. The Applicant proposes to increase the permitted biosolids daily maximum application rate from 100 cubic yards (CY) to 300 CY and to increase the 30-day maximum application rate from 1,625 CY to 5,000 CY. The Applicant has been permitted to land apply biosolids, processed sewage sludge, generated by the wastewater treatment plants of the City of Oceanside San Luis Rey and La Salina, the City of Riverside, and the Orange County Sanitation District Plants #1 and #2 to agricultural land in Amargosa Valley, Nye County, Nevada since May 21, 2003. On July 14, 2003, temporary permit TNEV2003384 authorized the Applicant to increase the biosolids application rate to the levels of the major modification through January 13, 2004. The biosolids are land applied to the farmed portion, approximately 700 acres, of the 1,360-acre Funeral Mountain Ranch. The biosolids application rate per acre shall be determined by the agronomic uptake rate of the crop to be planted in the application fields. To be eligible for land application, the biosolids must meet at least the Class B pathogen reduction standards and pollutant concentration limits. The proposed permit modification will not extend the May 20, 2008 permit expiration date.

Members of the public wishing to comment upon the proposed permit and/or to recommend terms and conditions for consideration of incorporation in the permit are invited to attend the meeting and provide comments and information that are pertinent to the Permit. Comments not related to water quality issues cannot be considered. The Division may set a five-minute time limit for oral statements based on the number of people in attendance who would like to comment. Comments must also be submitted in writing to be addressed in the Notice of Decision. Comments and information may be submitted by interested persons through the close of the hearing.

Comments and information submitted to the Division, other than those to be presented at the hearing, must be received by 5:00 P.M. November 12, 2003, at the following address:

Division of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Water Pollution Control
333 W. Nye Lane, Room 129
Carson City, Nevada 89706

All comments and information received in writing during the public hearing will be considered in the final determination regarding this draft permit modification.

The application and all documents subsequent thereto are on file at the Division's office in Carson City and are available for public inspection and copying pursuant to NRS 239.010 and NRS 445A.665. For additional information please contact Bruce Holmgren, Bureau of Water Pollution Control, at (775) 687-9423, or at bholmgre@ndep.nv.gov.